


date of Itoh to the filing date of the present application (constructive reduction to practice).

Applicant's arguments from the prior Amendment are hereby incorporated by reference. It is submitted that the primary reference, Parulski, in combination with the other cited references, fails to teach or suggest the claimed features of the present invention.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the independent claims are allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and passage to issue of claims 1-9 and 11-13.

Applicants' attorney believes that this Application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen G. Sullivan
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 38,329
(650) 493-4540